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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

**DIRKS et al** Atty. Ref.: **4662-269**

Serial No. **10/772,413** Group: **3733**

Filed: **February 6, 2004** Examiner: **Reimers, Annette R.**

For: **BONE FIXING DEVICE**

\* \* \* \* \*

May 17, 2007

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Sir:

The following comments and amendments (if any) are intended to be fully responsive to the "final" Official Action dated March 9, 2007, which set a nominal response due date of June 9, 2007.

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.121, each section of the subject Amendment (e.g., Claim Amendments, Specification Amendments, Drawing Amendments and Remarks) as may be appropriate to the issues raised in the Official Action to which this paper responds, begins on a separate page. Changes to the original text, claims and the like are shown by striking through language to be deleted and underlining of language to be added.